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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-27 (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) A passive cardiac reinforcement device for constraining outward expansion of a heart wall of a patient's heart during diastole, said device comprising:

a jacket constructed from a biomedical material, said biomedical material being radiopaque, and said jacket having an apical end and a base end and a predetermined size selected to surround an external surface of said heart; and

29. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 28 wherein said biomedical material is elastic.

30. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 28 wherein said jacket is sized to constrain diastolic expansion.

31. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 28 wherein said material is formed in an open cell construction with a plurality of open cells defined by interconnected, elongated elements.

32. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 28 wherein said jacket is sized to be applied to the epicardium of the heart.

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33. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 28 wherein said jacket is sized to be applied to the pericardium of the heart.

34. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 28 wherein the biomedical material that is radiopaque is platinum, titanium, or stainless steel.